

THE BECERRA BULLETIN

CONGRESSMAN XAVIER BECERRA'S NEWS AND VIEWS FROM WASHINGTON TO LOS ANGELES

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In a continued effort to bring news and relevant information about our federal government home district in Los Angeles, Representative Xavier Becerra (CA - 31), the only Congressional member from Southern California who is on the House Ways and Means Committee, brings you, "The Becerra Bulletin," a regular newsletter with facts and information meant to stimulate thought and discourse about American economic policy and a host of other issues.

BY THE NUMBERS

DOLLARS & SENSE POTPOURRI — ANOTHER TAKE ON SHOCK AND AWE

With the general election a mere five months away, Rep. Becerra said today that, "it's time to a the president and the Republican congress have failed to live up to its contract with the American people and new leadership is desperately needed." Some of the facts Rep. Becerra used to make his determination include:

A GROWING DEBT

- \$900,000 = what the federal government spends every minute of the day over what it brings in
- \$1,100,000,000 = what the federal government borrows on a daily basis to fund this deficit

WAGES

- \$1,500 = the amount by which average annual household income has decreased since November 2001
- \$34,742 = the average annual wage in California for industries that are adding jobs
- \$57,800 = the average annual wage in California for industries that are shedding jobs (a \$23,058 difference)
- -21% = the nationwide difference in average annual pay between the industries that are shedding jobs and the industries that are adding jobs

GAS PRICES

- \$1.43 = the average price for a gallon of gas in California in January 2001
- \$2.35 = the average price for a gallon of gas in California today (a 64% increase)

WAR IN IRAQ

- \$166,000,000,000 = the cost of the Iraq war and its aftermath since it began in March 2003

- \$25,000,000,000 = the amount of the Administration's newest request to continue warlike operations

SHORT TAKES - LOS ANGELES

WE REMEMBER OUR FALLEN HEROES

As of Tuesday, June 1, 806 soldiers have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq 2003. One of those fallen heroes is U.S. Marine Private First Class Eric Ayon, 26, a resident of Congressional District who was killed during combat operations in Al Anbar on April 9. He is survived by his wife, Angie, their seven year old son, Joshua, his parents, Enrique and Maria and his sister Cynthia and Jasmine. We are forever indebted to his and all of our soldiers' sacrifice, and hold them in our thoughts and prayers.

FEDERAL GRANT PROVES INSTRUMENTAL FOR ELYSIAN VALLEY UNITED

Rep. Becerra paid a visit to Elysian Valley United this past Tuesday, May 25, to meet with the nonprofit's members and staff. The congressman helped secure a \$476,745 federal grant in 2004. During the visit was to witness first hand how this worthy organization was making use of the money. Elysian Valley United is the only source of at-risk and delinquency prevention programming within the community of Elysian Valley. The money is being used to fund a mentoring program that employs tutors from the community, to expand its arts program, and to create a cycling club where students have access to the latest equipment and learn not just how to compete in cycling races, but also how to properly care for and maintain their bikes. While there, the cycling club put on an exhibition for Rep. Becerra and presented him with a team jersey. "The 31st congressional district is home to numerous organizations like Elysian Valley United who do such great work with so few resources," Rep. Becerra said. "It is especially gratifying to be able to lend assistance when possible, and then see that assistance put into action in such positive, life-enhancing ways."

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT STEVE HARO, 213.483.1425 213.819.0004 (CELL)



Representative Xavier Becerra, 31st Congressional District, California

[Committee on Ways and Means](#)

[Subcommittee on Trade](#) & [Subcommittee on Social Security](#)

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